(c) the steps being taken to see that the hostels are run properly?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) A total of 1,033 hostels have been sanctioned to be constructed in various States for the tribal girls during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan, upto 1995-96 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostel for ST girls.

(b) and (c) The up-keep and maintenance of the hostels are the responsbility of the State/UT concerned. The Central Assistance is limited to the construction of the hostel buildings only.

Trust Fund to ameliorate the lot of mentally handicapped persons

*256. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to create a Trust Fund for amelioration of the mentally handicapped persons;

(b) the steps being taken to ensure that the Trust Funds are utilised properly and the benefits reach those for whom they are meant; and

(c) the estimated number of mentally impaired persons in the country and of those who can be helped by treatment and other support to lead normal life with dignity standing on their own feet?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) Ministry of Welfare introduced the Bill No. 82, "National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Palsy Bill 1995" in Tenth Lok Sabha on 6.12.1995. However, the Bill could not come up for consideration in the Tenth Lok Sabha. Before reintroducing the Bill in Eleventh Lok Sabha, the fresh approval of the Cabinet has to be obtained. The action in this regard is in progress.

(b) Suitable provisions are proposed to be made for the proper accounting and audit of the Trust Funds in the proposed Bill and the Rules to be framed thereunder. Suitable rules and instructions will be made for ensuring that the benefits reach those for whom they are meant.

(c) Date compiled by small sample surveys from various parts of the country show that nearly 2 percent of the general population have mental retardation. No data are available regarding estimated number of mentally handicapped persons who can be helped by treatment to lead a normal life with dignity, standing on their own feet. Persons with mental retardation by definition require lifelong support. The degree of support varies according to severity i.e. the more severe the mental retardation, greater the support required.

Quantum of production, consumption and export of coffee

*257. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production, domestic consumption and the export of coffee during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the projections made for 1996-97; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The production, exports and estimated

domestic consumption during the last three years are as under:

(in tonne)

Year	Production	Exports	Year	Domestic Consumption (Estimated)
1993-94	2,08,000	1,36,690	1994	54,000
1994-95	1,80,100	1,37,395	1995	54,000
1995-96	2,23,000	1,70,581*	1996	55,000

*—subject to upward revision.

(b) The projections made for 1996-97 are as follows:—

Production	—	2,05,000 tonne (Estimated)
Exports	—	1,50,000 tonne (Target)
Domestic	—	55,000 tonne (Estimated)

(c) The state-wise break-up of the production, projected for 1996-97 season is as below:

(in tonne)

State	1996-97
Karnataka	1,41,000
Kerala	47,300
Tamil Nadu	15,700
Non-Traditional Areas	1,000
Total	2,05,000

Assessment of export and import policies

*258. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the assessment made in regard to export and import policies for creating a long term impact on India's exports; and

(b) measures taken to meet export targets of the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The thrust of the Export-Import Policy 1992—97, is export promotion which is crucial for external sector management and is the result of continuous and intensive inter-action with Trade and Industry. The focus of the export promotion schemes in the Policy is on strengthening the export production base and improving the cost competitiveness of export products besides achieving quality improvement and technological upgradation.

(b) Measures taken to meet export target of the current year include frequent reviews of export performance, simplification of Export & Import Policy and Procedures, debottlenecking of export infrastructure, promotion of joint ventures and bilateral trade with other countries. Specific actions taken this year include:

(i) To improve infrastructure specifically related to export production, the Crucial Balancing Investment Scheme has been operationalised.

(ii) Regional bilateral initiatives have been taken such as operationalisation of SAPTA.

(iii) Special thrust is being given to 43 countries of Latin American Region by giving double weightage for grant of recognition as Export House/Trading House/Star Trading House/Super Star Trading House.

(iv) Small Exporters with an average export turnover of Rs. 2 crores in the preceding three years or with a turnover of Rs. 5 crores in the preceding year have been made eligible for grant of Special Import Licence to give a special boost to exports of products manufactured in SSI and tiny sector.

(v) India Brand Equity Fund has been launched to build up a brand